

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claim 1, as shown below in the detailed listing of all claims which are, or were, in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method for the multi-step manufacture of contactless tickets or cards including a chip connected to an antenna on a paper support, said method comprising printing in series, using screen printing ink, ~~the~~ antennas on ~~said a~~ paper support strip, in fixing a chip on each ticket by connecting the bonding pads of the chip to the bonding pads of the antenna and in covering said paper support strip comprising the screen-printed antennas and the corresponding chips with an adhesive paper strip, each of the steps being followed by the winding of said paper support strip before moving onto the next step;

wherein said method includes a step comprising covering each of said screen-printed antennas with a protective layer, applied by printing, said protective layer being provided for preventing the screen printing ink from being transferred onto the back of the paper support strip during the successive windings thereof after each step.

2. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said protective layer is a dielectric layer.

3. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 2, wherein said dielectric layer is printed using a screen printing ink during screen printing the antenna onto the paper support.

4. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 3, wherein a part of said dielectric layer adapted to receive a conductive strip connecting the end of the screen-printed antenna to a bonding pad of the chip is greater than the rest of said dielectric layer.

5. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 4, wherein said part of the dielectric layer adapted to receive said conductive strip is made up of 100% dielectric, whereas the rest of said dielectric layer is made up of 30% dielectric.

6. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 5, wherein said print screen which is used to produce said dielectric layer comprises a full-tone screen corresponding to said part

adapted to receive said conductive strip, whereas the rest of said dielectric layer is half-tone printed.

7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said protective layer is applied by screen printing to said antenna.